

Message Text

PAGE 01 TOKYO 11308 141004Z

21

ACTION EB-07

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2481

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, JA

SUBJ: CIVAIR: JAPAN CHARTER QUOTA

REF: TOKYO 11027

1. PER REFTEL, EMBOFFS MET AUGUST 13 WITH BOTH JCAB (INT'L AFFAIRS DIRECTOR, YAMADA AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR TOYA) AND FONOFF OFFICIALS (FIRST NA DIV DIRECTOR FUJII AND MATSUOZAWA) TO PURSUE ISSUE OF CHARTER QUOTA. AIDE MEMOIRE CONTAINING POINTS STATE 167538 LEFT AT FONOFF AND COPY SUBSEQUENTLY MAILED JCAB. COPIES ALSO POUCHED TO EB/AV AND EA/J.

2. DURING ORAL PRESENTATIONS, WE STRESSED OUR CONCERN THAT QUOTA, AS GRANTED THROUGH SEPT. 1975, FALLING FAR BELOW PREVIOUSLY ANTICIPATED 70 FLIGHTS; AND ASKED THAT A PROMPT AND LIBERAL DETERMINATION BE MADE RE REST OF YEAR; I.E., 70 TOTAL FLIGHTS. EMBOFF STATED OUR BELIEF TOURISTS ATTRACTED BY CHARTER FLIGHT DIFFERENT FROM COMMERCIAL AIRLINE TRAVELERS AND SCHEDULED CARRIERS THEREFORE NOT UNDULY HURT BY CHARTER TRADE. EMBOFF ALSO EXPRESSED HOPE 1/3 JAPAN ORIGIN RESTRICTION COULD BE EASED TO 1/2 AND HOPE THAT 1976 QUOTA DETERMINATION WOULD BE LIBERAL AND NOT MADE IN PIECEMEAL MANNER AS 1975 QUOTA HAS BEEN. WE ALSO INFORMED JAPANESE OF ANTICIPATED FILING WITH CAB BY US SUPPLEMENTAL CARRIER TO RESTRICT JAL'S CHARTER AUTHORITY.

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PAGE 02 TOKYO 11308 141004Z

3. IN REPLY, BOTH JCAB OFFICIALS STATED 1975 QUOTA WOULD QUOTE NOT BE MORE THAN 70 UNQUOTE AND ASKED WHETHER LATTER FIGURE WOULD BE SATISFACTORY TO WHICH EMBOFF REPLIED AFFIRMATIVELY. TOYA INDICATED THERE "LITTLE

POSSIBILITY" ONE-THIRD JAPAN ORIGIN RESTRICTION WOULD BE EASED AND REFERRED TO WORLD AIRWAYS REQUEST FOR 32 OCTOBER-NOVEMBER FLIGHTS AS UNREASONABLE. BOTH JCAB OFFICIALS STATED NO CONSIDERATION HAD BEEN GIVEN TO 1976 QUOTA. OFFICIALS APPEARED SANGUINE RE NEWS OF FILING BEFORE USCAB TO RESTRICT JAL CHARTER AUTHORITY.

4. AT SEPARATE MEETING FONOFF OFFICIALS LISTENED TO OUR PRESENTATION AND THEN GAVE THEIR EXPLANATION OF GOJ CHARTER QUOTA POSITION. MATSUOZAWA CITED FINANCIAL PROBLEMS SCHEDULED CARRIERS, CROWDED CONDITIONS AT HANEDA AIRPORT AND BELIEF THAT US SUPPLEMENTAL CARRIERS DID NOT USE 25 FLIGHT QUOTA GRANTED FIRST HALF 75 (WE LEARNED LATER FROM THIRD SOURCE THIS INCORRECT). MATSUOZAWA, RE FINANCIAL PROBLEMS SCHEDULED CARRIERS, ALSO MENTIONED JAPANESE DESIRE FOR FREQUENCY TALKS BETWEEN MAJOR PACIFIC CARRIERS; I.E., JAL, PAN AM AND NW. FONOFF OFFICIALS PROMISED REVIEW AIDE MEMOIRE AND DISCUSS MATTER WITH JCAB.

5. EMBASSY COMMENT: IT IS OUR BELIEF, BASED ON THESE TWO MOST RECENT MEETINGS, THAT THE GRANTING OF A 70 FREQUENCY QUOTA IS STILL A GOOD POSSIBILITY BUT THAT THE JCAB IS UNLIKELY TO RELAX THE ONE-THIRD JAPANESE ORIGIN RESTRICTION. END COMMENT.
HODGSON

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